

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FREETO 00436 061325Z

61

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 USIA-06 /016 W

----- 047744

R 061310Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 846

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 0436

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SL

SUBJECT: FREETOWN YOUTH CLUB

REF: FREETOWN 0415 AND PREVIOUSL

1. EDWARD AKAR CALLED ON ME MARCH 6 ACCOMPANIED BY REPRESENTATIVE OF GOSL MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. AKAR SAID ABORTED TRIP HAD CAUSED HIM ACUTE EMBARRASSMENT, PARTICULARLY SINCE HE HAD SOLICITED AND RECEIVED A \$600 DONATION FROM PRESIDENT STEVENS FOR WARM CLOTHING. AKAR SAID HE PLANNED TO CALL ON STEVENS NEXT WEEK TO EXPRESS HIS REGRET AT HAVING RAISED FUNDS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR WHAT HAS TURNED OUT TO BE HOAX. AKAR LEFT COPIES OF MOST OF THE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN CLUB MEMBERS AND DR. THOMAS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT'S ASSOCIATION AND ASKED EMBASSY TO SEE WHETHER PERPETRATORS THIS EPISODE CAN BE TRACED.

2. CORRESPONDENCE, WHICH WILL BE POUCHED MARCH 12, APPEARS TO GIVE FEW CLUES OTHER THAN REPORTED ADDRESS OF DR. THOMAS, 1831 CALIFORNIA AVENUE, APT 20, WASHINGTON DC 20009, AND IDENTIFYING NUMBER OF CABLES RCA SENT FROM THOMAS TO CLUB MEMBERS DECEMBER 13, 1974; NOVEMBER 28, 1974; DECEMBER 12, 1974; AND FEBRUARY 15, 1975.

3. THIS INCIDENT HAS EMBARRASSED EMBASSY AND BESMIRCHED THE IMAGE OF U.S. CULTURAL EXCHANGE
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PROGRAMS. REQUEST DEPARTMENT COORDINATE WITH SL

EMBASSY WASHINGTON EFFORTS TO TRACE PERPETRATORS.
EFFORTS MIGHT INCLUDE PERSONAL VISIT TO ADDRESS
GIVEN AS THOMAS'S RESIDENCE AND CHECK WITH RCA
AS TO WHETHER CABLES CAN BE TRACED.
SAMUELS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975FREETO00436
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750079-0386
From: FREETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750377/aaaacr1z.tel
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 FREETOWN 0415
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 DEC 2003 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Secure: OPEN
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